

R E M A R K S

The specification has been amended to reflect the national stage status.

The claims have been amended to remove improper multiple dependencies.

In addition, claims 3 and 9 have been amended consistent with the amendments presented during prosecution of the international application.

Favorable action on the merits is solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

Hirokatsu HAYASHI et al.

By Warren Cheek Jr.
Warren M. Cheek, Jr.
Registration No. 33,367
Attorney for Applicants

WMC/dlk
Washington, D.C. 20006-1021
Telephone (202) 721-8200
Facsimile (202) 721-8250
January 7, 2005